



In the Name and by the Authority of

# THE STATE OF OHIO



**WHEREAS**, Ohio has long been a pioneer in the realm of school choice; from the first convening of the Governor's Commission on Educational Choice in 1991 with the message to Ohio's parents: you do have a choice in finding the best education for your children; and

**WHEREAS**, The *Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program*, which began in 1995, was among the first in the nation to offer private school tuition vouchers to students in a struggling urban district, and this school year, more than 7,000 students attended private schools with state-funded scholarships through this program; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio created a system of charter/community schools in 1997, giving parents statewide options for education without tuition. Today, charter schools serve approximately 120,000 students throughout the state; and

**Whereas**, in 2003, the *Ohio Autism Scholarship Program* was created, becoming the only voucher program in the United States to focus solely on the educational needs of children with autism; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Ohio EdChoice Scholarship* was created in 2005 to provide private school tuition vouchers to students in underperforming public schools anywhere in the state, and in 2013, the *Ohio EdChoice Expansion* was added; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, Governor DeWine signed legislation that expands access to the *Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Program*; and

**WHEREAS**, traditional public school choice has been around even longer than all of the above options, with open enrollment between public school districts beginning in 1989; and

**WHEREAS**, by observing National School Choice Week in Ohio, our citizens can truly recognize that Ohio is front and center in the important work of providing all children access to a high-quality education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby recognize January 23 – January 29, 2022 as

## NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2022.

Mike DeWine  
Governor



Jon Husted  
Lieutenant Governor